

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 13 is a schematic diagram illustrating a data structure of a data packet Po generated by the node 10 shown in FIG. 2-10; and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

If YES is determined at any of the above steps C1, C2, and C4, the transmission/reception control section 12 generates a first response indicating a denial of participating in the ad hoc network, and sends the generated first response to a node (startpoint node or another relay node) 1 having transmitted the current inquiry packet Pi (step C5). Thereafter, the transmission/reception ~~processing~~ control section 12 exits the process of FIG. 7, and terminates the process as a relay node 1 (step A5 in FIG. 4).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

After step C14, upon receipt of a second response sent from any nearby node 1, the transmission/reception control section 12 transmits a reception response to the node (startpoint node or another relay node) 1 having given the current inquiry to the node 1 thereof (step C16). Thereafter, the transmission/reception ~~processing~~ control section 12 exits the process of FIG. 7, and terminates the process as a relay node 1 (step A5 in FIG. 4).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Also, if the hop limit is 0 at step C8, or if there is no nearby node 1 which accepts the participation at step C13, the transmission/reception control section 12 generates, on the work area ~~+4_13~~, a second response indicating that the data communication has not been completed, and sends the generated second response through the transmission/reception section 14 to the node (startpoint node or another relay node) 1 having given the current inquiry to the node 1 thereof (step C17). Thereafter, the transmission/reception ~~processing~~control section 12 exits the process of FIG. 7, and terminates the process as a relay node 1 (step A5 in FIG. 4).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Here, FIG. 4 is referred to again. At step A4, the endpoint node ID contained in the received inquiry packet Pi matches the own node ID, the node 1 acts as an endpoint node 1, and executes a process as shown in FIG. 8 (step A6). In FIG. 8, as in step C7, the transmission/reception control section 12 waits for any data packet Po or Pr to be transmitted (step D1). After data packets Po or Pr are transferred to the work area ~~+4_13~~, the transmission/reception control section 12 sequentially passes the received packets Po or Pr to an upper layer (e.g., an application layer), and, after the last data packet Po or Pr has been received (step D2), it generates, on the work area ~~+4_13~~, a second response indicating that the data communication has been completed, and the generated second response is sent through the transmission/reception section 14 to the node (startpoint node or relay node) 1 having given the current inquiry to the node 1 thereof (step D3). Thereafter, the transmission/reception control section 12 exits the process of FIG. 8, and terminates the process as an endpoint node 1 (step A6 in FIG. 4).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 10 is a block diagram illustrating a structure of a mobile communication device (hereinafter, referred to interchangeably as a "node") 10 according to a variation of the above-described embodiment. In terms of block configurations, the mobile communication device 10 in FIG. 10 is different from the mobile communication device 1 in that a user information communication section 7 is further included. Except this, there is no difference in block configurations between the two mobile communication devices 10 and 1. Therefore, in FIG. 10, elements corresponding to those shown in FIG. +2 are denoted by the same reference numerals, and the description thereof is omitted.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 28, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

If YES is determined at step B6, the transmission/reception control section 12 generates, on the work area 13, data packets Po having a data structure shown in FIG. 13, and sends each of the data packets Po on the work area 13 through the transmission/reception section 14 to any nearby node 1 having transmitted a first response indicating the acceptance of participation (step F1). Specifically, data to be transmitted is divided by a predetermined size into several datagrams. Thereafter, the transmission/reception control section 12 retrieves, ~~from the storage device 6~~, the own node ID, the hop limit, and the endpoint node ID from the storage device 6, and further, the age of the user of the startpoint node 10 from the work area 13, and adds them to each datagram to generate several data packets Po as shown in FIG. 13A. When step F1 as described above is completed, the process of the startpoint node 10 proceeds to step B8.